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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NASSAU 001515

SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER CHRISTIE'S CHINA TRIP, THE LATEST IN A STRING OF VISITS

REF: A. 03 NASSAU 2124 B. NASSAU 1412

Classified By: CHARGE ROBERT M. WITAJEWSKI FOR REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D).

SUMMARY

1. (SBU) Bahamian Prime Minister Perry Christie will lead an official government delegation to China on August 14-21, continuing a two-year up BAHAMIAN DIGNITARIES "FREQUENT FLYERS" TO CHINA...

2. (C) Prime Minister Perry Christie is scheduled to visit Beijing and Shanghai from August 14 - 21, 2004. This will be the Prime Minister's f

3. (U) The Prime Minister's trip to China is the latest in a stream of high-level Bahamian visitors to China since the PLP's electoral victory

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CHINESE PRESENCE IN THE BAHAMAS

7. (C) China is one of four countries to maintain resident ambassadors in The Bahamas. Ambassador Dongcun Jiao presented his credentials to Gc

8. (C) The largest Chinese investment in The Bahamas is the \$1 billion Freeport container port owned and operated by Hong Kong-based Hutchisor

9. (U) Madam Wu Yi, State Councilor to the People's Republic of China accompanied by a delegation of 30 people, including six Chinese business

COMMENT

10. (C) The Bahamas' political and economic ties to China remain modest. Bilateral trade flows have increased, reaching approximately \$95 mill